

5 by another addressed to the Powers, by Dr. Wu Ting-fang. About this time the composition of the Republican Cabinet was announced. Included among the Ministers were several men who were not members of* the *Tung Meng Hui*. Huang Hsing, whose appointment as Generalissimo had been reversed in favour of General Li Yuan-hung, became Minister of War.

Dr. Sun, when informing Yuan Shih-kai of his assumption of office, expressed his readiness to resign in the latter's favour if Yuan would agree to a Republic. The Armistice was renewed from time to time, as negotiations proceeded. Partisans of Yuan and of Dr. Sun accused each other of bad faith. Several acts of terrorism took place in January. An attempt was made to assassinate Yuan Shih-kai in the streets of Peking on the 26th. General Liang Pi (a member of the Imperial Clan) was murdered. The Imperial Family influenced now by reactionaries headed by some of the younger Princes and Tieh Liang, former Tartar General at Nanking; now by the older Princes vacillated between resistance and abdication. Two statements defining Dr. Sun's attitude towards Yuan Shih-kai's succession to the Presidency were issued on January 22 and 24 respectively. He made it clear that he would only resign in Yuan's favour if he definitely declared for a Republic, and following election by the National Council, swore to observe the Provisional Constitution. He added

that his offer of resignation was
spontaneous, and
not the result of any previous
arrangement, and that
in making it he had to overcome
considerable
opposition.